



# Indiana Court Times

Supreme Court, Division of State Court Administration  
[www.state.in.gov/judiciary](http://www.state.in.gov/judiciary)

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## Hoosiers Host and Lead National Court Event

*Indiana was the proud host of the 2006 annual meeting of the Conference of Chief Justices (CCJ) and Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA). The meeting took place in Indianapolis from July 30 to August 2<sup>nd</sup>.*



The two conferences, CCJ and COSCA, are the leading national organizations working on behalf of the state court systems and are comprised of the chief justice and state court administrator, respectively, of every state, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the territories of American Samoa, Guam and the Virgin Islands. The two conferences are served by the National Center for State Courts, which in its own right is a leading national organization that serves the states' court systems.



*Indiana Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard*

Founded in 1949, the Conference of Chief Justices provides opportunities for states' judicial leaders to work on ways to improve the administration of justice in the states' courts. The Conference of State Court Administrators was organized in 1953 to work with CCJ and is similarly dedicated to the improvement of the states' judicial systems. The meeting's theme was the assessment of judicial administration in light of a famous speech given by Harvard Law School Dean, Roscoe Pound, 100 years ago.

In addition to serving as host, Indiana's Chief Justice Shepard completed his one-year term at the conclusion of the annual meeting as president of the Conference of Chief Justices and Chair



*The Hon. John Surbeck*

of the Board of Directors of the National Center for State Courts. The COSCA host, State Court Administrator Lilia Judson, completed her three-year term on the Board of Directors of COSCA and as chair of that organization's education committee.

A number of Indiana judges and other Hoosiers attended the meetings and participated in the programs. Governor Mitch Daniels spoke and welcomed over 240 judges and other guests at a luncheon. Former Indianapolis Mayor and Marion County Prosecutor, Harvard Professor Steve Goldsmith spoke about the challenges facing modern government; Indiana University School of Law

at Bloomington Professor Charles Geyh spoke on "Popular Impatience with Restraint," and Dean James White, Indiana University School of Law at Indianapolis Professor Emeritus, discussed the future of legal education in America. Judge John Surbeck, Allen Superior Court, offered special insights on re-entry courts, and Judge Ken Johnson, Marion Superior Court, shared the unique tools and systems he has established to deal with complex, multi-party litigation.

A round table, interactive discussion on the doctrine of contentious proceedings and access to court



*Governor Mitch Daniels spoke and welcomed over 240 judges and guests.*

*continued on page 2*



*Professor David Papke*

proceedings was led by a stellar panel comprised of Professor Judith Resnik of Yale Law School as moderator, and Luke Bierman, Fellow in Law and Policy, Government Law Center, Albany Law School, Mark Curriden, Senior Communications Counsel at Vinson and Elkins, LLP, Lucy Dalglish, Executive Director, Reports Committee for Freedom of the Press, Chief Justice Leroy Hassell, Sr. of Virginia, Chief Justice Margaret Marshall of Massachusetts, and Chief Justice Clifford Taylor of Michigan as panelists.

The long list of other outstanding programs included a Law and Literature Session featuring Abraham Lincoln's life in Indiana, presented by Chief Justice Frank J. Williams of Rhode Island; an introduction of Dean Roscoe Pounds' 1906 speech on the administration of justice by Professor Barry Friedman of New York University School of Law; a session on Judicial Selection by Chief Justice Michael Wolff of Missouri, Chief Justice Louis Laborato of Iowa and Professor Roy Schotland, of Georgetown University Law Center; a presentation by Michael Greco, President of the American Bar Association, on popular impatience with restraint; a humorous but thought provoking session on the effect of pop culture on public perception of the judicial system, by Professor David Papke of Marquette University Law School and formerly of the Indiana University School of Law at Indianapolis.



*The Hon. Frank J. Williams*

and Professor Roy Schotland, of Georgetown University Law Center; a presentation by Michael Greco, President of the American Bar Association, on popular impatience with restraint; a humorous but thought provoking session on the effect of pop culture on public perception of the judicial system, by Professor David Papke of Marquette University Law School and formerly of the Indiana University School of Law at Indianapolis.



*Michael Greco, President ABA*

Sue Dosal, State Court Administrator of Minnesota, Mary C. McQueen, President of the National Center for State Courts and former State Court Administrator of Washington State, and Russell Wheeler, Guest Scholar of the Brookings Institution led a panel discussion on the rise of modern court administration; Dean John Attanasio of the Dedman School of Law at Southern Methodist University and Hulett Askew, Consultant for the American Bar Association, joined



*The Hon. Robert Mack Bell*

Indiana University Dean James White to take a look at legal education in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century; and a panel of Judge Roger Warren, President Emeritus of the National Center for State Courts, Chief Justice Leigh Saufley of Maine, Mark Carey, President of the American Probation and Parole Association, Judge Dale Koch, Presiding Judge of Multnomah County Circuit Court, Portland, Oregon, Cynthia Cobbs, Director of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, and Larry Hugick, Chairman of Princeton Survey Research Associates International led a discussion on "Getting Smarter About Sentencing—What Works to Reduce Recidivism."



*The Hon. Christine M. Durham*

CCJ and COSCA will meet in Michigan for their 2007 annual meeting.



*First row, left to right: The Hon. Leigh Ingalls Saufley, The Hon. Shirley Abrahamson, The Hon. Mary Mullarkey*





*The Hon. Ruth McGregor throws ceremonial 1st pitch at the Indians baseball game at Victory Field*



*Randy, Rowdie, and Ruth rally at Victory Field*



*Mrs. Amy MacDonell, wife of Indiana Chief Justice, Randall T. Shepard, and Mrs. Judy O'Bannon, former Indiana First Lady, hosted an event for spouses at the L.S. Ayres Tea Room in the Indiana State Museum in Indianapolis*



*Left to right: Indiana Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard, and Executive Director of State Court Administration, Lilia G. Judson*



*Top row, left to right: Court Administrators Rosalyn Woodsen Frierson, Carl L. Gromer*

*Bottom row, left to right: Elisabeth Goodner, Cynthia Cobbs and Randy C. Camp*



*Left to right: The Hon. Dana Fabe, Alaska; The Hon. Vanessa Ruiz, President of National Association of Women Judges; The Hon. Jane Spencer Craney; The Hon. Christina Miller*



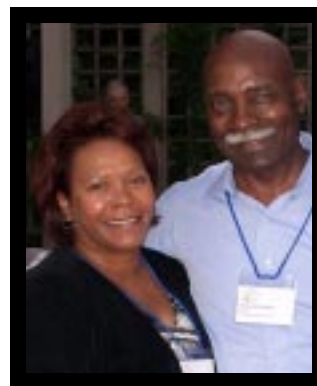
*Indiana Supreme Court Justice Theodore R. and Mrs. Peggy Boehm*



*Left to right: Professor Roy A. Schotland and Governor Mitch Daniels*



*Left to right: Indiana Supreme Court Justice Brent E. (holding granddaughter) and Mrs. Jan Dickson. Mr. Seymore Abrahamson presented Jan with an award for her dedicated service on the Judicial Family Institute.*



*Indiana Supreme Court Justice Robert D. and Mrs. Denise Rucker*



*Indiana Supreme Court Justice Frank Jr. and Mrs. Cheryl Sullivan*



*The Key Strummers perform for the guests at Arts Park*



*"The Grand Canal" one of many activities planned for the children*



*Mr. Everet Green*



## Indianapolis Cultural Development Commission

***The Indianapolis Cultural Development Commission was formed in late 2001 to receive funding of \$5 million each from Lilly Endowment and the Capital Improvements Board.***

The initial funding was for a five-year program designed to accomplish several objectives including: raising the local participation in and support of the cultural resources in Indianapolis promoting “cultural tourism” i.e., generating visitors from outside Indianapolis to enjoy the city’s cultural attractions enhancing the cultural base of central Indiana.

The Commission’s work is now in its fifth year and on June 20 of this year we announced a \$2.5 million grant from Lilly Endowment to continue the work through 2008.

The range of cultural resources in Indianapolis is very broad, and includes both major established institutions such as the Indianapolis Museum of Art, the Symphony, the Zoo, and Connor Prairie Farm and smaller performing groups like Dance Kaleidoscope, the Phoenix Theatre and the Indianapolis Children’s Choir. Promotion of these resources and encouragement of the local arts community are principal goals of the Commission. The Commission also seeks to support the historic neighborhoods of Indianapolis. Its overall goal is to make Indianapolis an attractive and interesting place to live with a variety of cultural assets designed to appeal to all ages and population groups.

The Commission has the support of the Capital Improvements Board where its single paid staff member is housed. I have been privileged to serve as Chair. The other members are:

Gerald Bepko, Chancellor Emeritus IUPUI

Alpha Blackburn, Blackburn Architects

Colleen Heeter, Indiana Black Expo, for Representative William Crawford

Walter Knabe, Walter Knabe Studios, Inc

June McCormack, Sallie Mae

Brian Payne, Central Indiana Community Foundation

Yvonne Shaheen, Diversities, Inc.

J. Albert Smith, Jr., Chase, Central Indiana.

The Commission generally funds programs proposed and operated by other established organizations. In particular it has from the outset had the support and willing partnership of the Arts Council of Indianapolis, Indianapolis Downtown Inc., and the Indianapolis Convention and Visitors Association, of whose staffs have contributed enormously to carrying out the various programs that the Commission has approved

The Commission cannot support all of the worthy programs such a broad charter would embrace, and we quickly focused on four areas of activities to further our different but related goals. First, the Commission has promoted public art through programs run by the Arts Council. We helped to fund the Tom Otterness sculptures that were in various places in

downtown Indianapolis last year, including the front of the State House, the Convention Center and Monument Circle. This exhibit achieved a great deal of publicity, including articles in the New York Times and other national publications, focusing on Indianapolis’ growing reputation as an arts destination. We also have funded a Cultural Districts program designed to develop distinctive identities for Broad Ripple Village, Fountain Square, the Massachusetts Avenue Arts District, the Wholesale District, and the Canal and White River Park. The logos for these districts that you may have seen, and will see with more frequency, are examples of this initial work. This program is operated by Indianapolis Downtown, Inc. In each of these districts we work with a local organization to enhance the flavor of the individual area and develop its potential as a unique destination.

Promotion of special events and institutions has taken several forms. The overall cultural tourism effort has included the “Big Red Arrow” that you may have seen around Indianapolis during last year’s opening of the major expansions of the Indianapolis Museum of Art, the Eiteljorg Museum of Native American and Western Art, the Artspark at the Arts Center in Broad Ripple, and a variety of events by the Indianapolis Symphony, the Indiana Repertory Theatre and many others. The “Big Red Arrow” local campaign was accompanied by television and print media campaigns in surrounding areas including, Chicago, Cincinnati, Champaign, Illinois, and Fort Wayne. A similar campaign is underway this summer. The statistics maintained by the Indiana Convention and Visitors Bureau, which joined the Commission in funding the project, demonstrate that this campaign was extremely successful in generating visitors to a variety of Indianapolis attractions including the new Dolphin Pavilion at the Indianapolis Zoo and the opening of the expanded IMA and the Eiteljorg. Attendance at these attractions from outside central Indiana was up significantly in all cases, and over 50% for some.

The Arts Council also operates a “fast track” grants program for the Commission. That program is designed to provide funding for creative ideas that enhance the local artistic and cultural scene or promote cultural resources. In general, we favor ideas that are additive to the current programs and/or create new cultural assets and special consideration are given to those programs that involve collaboration between groups and that leverage funding or efforts by others.

The Commission’s goal is to gain the recognition and active participation that the rich cultural resources of Indianapolis deserve. We believe we are making progress, as demonstrated by the recent recognition of this city as one of the top twenty-five arts cities in the United States.

*By: Indiana Supreme Court Justice Theodore R. Boehm*

## JTAC's BMV Project Serves Counties Across Indiana

When new federal rules required courts and clerks to send conviction information on serious infractions by commercial drivers' license holders to the Bureau of Motor Vehicle within 10 days, JTAC offered multiple solutions for clerks and courts throughout Indiana.

The existing situation in Indiana was not efficient. Most clerks did not meet the 10-day deadline, putting Indiana at risk of losing millions of dollars in federal highway funds. Thousands of forms were faxed and mailed, and BMV staff had to input the data

### JTAC developed INCite

INCite is the Indiana Court Information Technology Extranet created by JTAC. INCite makes it possible for clerks to send infraction information to the BMV whether they have a case management system or not. The system uses secure web-based technology via a JTAC repository.

### Current INCite statistics

- Counties using – 37
- Courts using – 41

INCite contains an SR-16 form (the standard form prescribed by the BMV on which court clerks transmit conviction information) which allows clerks to enter data for electronic transmission to the BMV. INCite allows an interface with the BMV so when a clerk enters a driver's license number the form is automatically populated with up-to-date information from the BMV including the type of license and its status.

### Other Options

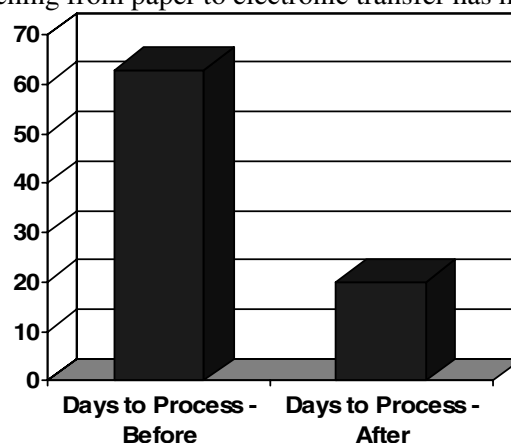
In collaboration with the BMV, JTAC has been working closely with counties that have an existing case management system to provide training and upgrades to allow electronic transmission of convictions and judgments.

There is still work to be done, but overall, the number of courts sending SR-16 information electronically to CATS (Court Abstract Transmission System), instead of by mail or fax, has increased dramatically.

"We've seen real success as counties make the switch from paper to electronic transfer and front-line staff around the state has provided great input as we develop new functions to add to INCite," said Mary L. DePrez, JTAC's Director and Counsel for Trial Court Technology.

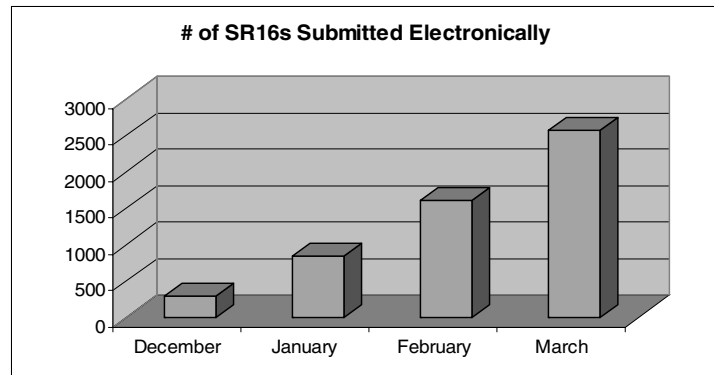
JTAC staff has made more than 100 on-site visits to assist local courts and clerks. During these meetings teams review current work flow procedures, offer assistance using the federal grant dollars JTAC received, and let staff know about other JTAC-sponsored programs like free computer training at Ivy Tech and free linkage to *Access Indiana* which provides BMV driving records. Switching from paper to electronic transfer has made a real impact on local courts' efficiency.

### Paper processing of SR-16s versus electronic



We have made tremendous strides, but there is still much work to do and JTAC will continue to work with counties to meet the federal requirements.

By: Cindy Collier



## Indiana Judicial Officers Complete 2006 Mini-Marathon

Several Indiana judicial officers and members of their families were among the 27,600 runners and walkers who completed the One America 500 Festival Mini-Marathon in Indianapolis on May 6, 2006. Measured by number of participants, the event is the world's largest half-marathon (13.1 miles) and one of the ten largest road races of any distance in the world.

Allen Circuit Court Judge Thomas Felts, Allen Circuit Court Magistrate Craig Bobay, and Supreme Court Justice Frank Sullivan completed the race in almost identical times and posed for the accompanying photograph after crossing the finish line. Felts and Bobay were part of an Allen County contingent that also included Allen Superior Court Judge Nancy Boyer. Felts's participation was particularly impressive, coming as it did within two



Left to right: Hon. Craig Bobay; Hon. Frank Sullivan; and Hon. Thomas Felts.

weeks of his competing in the 2006 Boston Marathon.

As best as *Court Times* has been able to determine, the fastest time posted this year by an Indiana judicial officer in the Mini-Marathon was by Wayne Superior Court Judge Darrin Dolehanty.

Asked to comment, Justice Sullivan said, "The Mini is a great community event and preparing for it is a great way to get exercise. I would never say that running is for everyone but do think that all judges should try to get some regular aerobic exercise – such as walking, swimming, or biking."

Please notify *Court Times* if you completed the Mini-Marathon and are not mentioned in this article. We will identify you in the next issue.

## Spanish Training Now Available For Trial Court Employees

Court staff is often called upon to provide basic information to those who use our court system. "What court do I go to?" "When is my next court date?" These questions are fairly simple to answer. But when asked by Spanish-speaking individuals, court staff may struggle to answer.

In an effort to alleviate this problem, the Indiana Supreme Court's Judicial Center and the Division of State Court Administration have partnered with Ivy Tech Community College to develop a Spanish curriculum for court staff. This program is designed to assist trial court employees in basic communications with Spanish-speaking individuals. The program was developed based on survey responses from court staff across the state and feedback from a pilot class held in the fall of 2005.

The course consists of 24 hours of classroom instruction. The textbook includes a CD-ROM to help staff maintain the skills learned during the course. The topics covered include: greetings and introductions; dates and times; numbers; telephone reception phrases; gathering

personal information; providing directions to various locations; communicating courtroom procedures; referring to court documents, and much more. Another great feature of this course is that it is being offered statewide at no cost to trial court staff. The expense is paid by the Indiana Supreme Court.

To register for this course, a court employee must submit to the appropriate Ivy Tech representative an authorization letter signed by the judge. A brochure containing the Ivy Tech contact information and sample form letter has been distributed to each court of record. The local Ivy Tech representative can provide further information on course schedules.

Also, this information can be accessed on the web at: <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/center/spanish-course/>.

Questions about this program, should be directed to Michelle C. Goodman, Staff Attorney, Indiana Judicial Center at [mgoodman@courts.state.in.us](mailto:mgoodman@courts.state.in.us) or (317) 232-1313.

By: Michelle Goodman

## Indiana CLEO Celebrates 10th Class

*The Indiana Conference for Legal Education Opportunity (ICLEO) has made amazing strides in increasing minority representation at the Indiana law schools, and ultimately the legal community throughout the state of Indiana. In 2007, ICLEO will celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> year. In 1997, ICLEO's inaugural class of thirty students assembled to commence the mandatory six-week summer institute at the Indiana University School of Law in Bloomington.*

The 10<sup>th</sup> Indiana CLEO class began its Summer Institute on June 12, 2006, at Valparaiso University School of Law in Valparaiso, Indiana. The current class is composed of fifteen men and thirteen women. Twenty-two of the fellows identify Indiana as their home state, three hail from California, one from Texas, one from Michigan and one from Massachusetts. Upon successful completion of the Summer Institute, six of the fellows will attend Indiana University School of Law-Bloomington, sixteen will attend Indiana University School of Law-Indianapolis, two will attend Notre Dame, and four will attend Valparaiso University.

This year's Summer Institute Coordinator's, Zahra Nwabara, Director of Admissions at Valparaiso School of

Law and Professor Ruth Vance, have orchestrated a fine balance of academic exposure, exposure to the legal community and career planning activities. This year, the students are taking courses in Contracts, Torts, Civil Procedure and Legal Writing. They have planned into their schedule, a trip to the Federal District Court in South Bend, as well as a Career Planning Institute facilitated by Ms. Valerie Jensen, Director of Career Planning at Valparaiso University School of Law.

In preparation for the 10<sup>th</sup> year celebration of the Indiana CLEO program, an ICLEO alumni council is being assembled. The alumni council will be instrumental in planning commemorative events, including a gala to take place in the spring of 2007.

By: Robyn Williamson

## New Jury Pool Lists a Statewide Success, Free Training Available for Jury Administrators

*Indiana courts now have the most diverse and inclusive jury pool lists ever created thanks to the Indiana Supreme Court's Jury Pool project. The Division of State Court Administration is offering free computer training for Trial Court Jury Administrators as part of the program.*

The new jury lists were available for use as of January 1, 2006, and 77 Indiana counties are already using them. In addition to providing a comprehensive jury pool, the lists can be used for other functions that can save counties time and money, such as creating mailing lists and summonses.

The one-on-one training is designed to give jury administrators additional skills to manage the jury pool lists more efficiently. The training includes: how to set up and perform a mail merge using Microsoft Word; how to sort, organize, and customize Microsoft Excel spreadsheets; how to perform basic queries in Microsoft Access; and other basic operations. The classes will not include training on specific jury management systems. Counties are encouraged to consult their software vendor for spe-

cific system support.

Training began on August 14th, and 27 counties have already signed up to have a trainer go to their courts.

"We are pleased to provide this free training and give local jury administrators additional assistance. It is clear that this project has already made a great impact statewide, and courts are reporting that the jury pools called are far more diverse than in the past. Our goal was to create a truly representative list, and that is what we are seeing," said Lilia G. Judson, director of the Division of State Court Administration.

For additional information or to schedule your free training please contact Joy Hess at 317-234-2756 or email at [jhess@jtac.in.gov](mailto:jhess@jtac.in.gov).

By: Joy Hess



## On Line Database Will Make Searches for 19th Century Supreme Court Cases Easier

***A new online database will make it easier to retrieve information about thousands of historic Indiana Supreme Court cases from the 19th century that previously had only been available on a limited basis, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced earlier this summer.***

The database allows for searches of basic information about Indiana Supreme Court cases dating from 1817 to approximately 1872. Searches can be done by keyword, party name, by year, by the county, by the court where the case was appealed from, or by how it was decided. Once a specific case has been located in the database, researchers should record the "box number" associated with the case and contact the State Archives at [www.in.gov/icpr/contact](http://www.in.gov/icpr/contact). An archivist will retrieve the documents associated with it and determine if the materials need to be rehabilitated before viewing. "For years, the information about many of these cases has been shielded from much significant public review. But the new online database will open up these documents so that more people can use these important records," said Chief Justice Shepard. To

begin a search, a researcher simply enters a term into any or all of the fields. Searching several fields will refine the results and produce fewer records. Because 19th century spelling was not always standardized, trying alternate spellings of terms and names may increase search results. This project has been made possible through a joint effort of the State Archives, the Supreme Court's "Courts in the Classroom" project and its Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC). The State Archives is seeking volunteers to assist with identifying key information about these historic case documents so the database can be expanded to include additional information about each case including keywords and attorney names. For more information about volunteering, please call the State Archives at 317.591.5222.

By: David J. Remondini

## Robyn Williamson to Coordinate Court's Law School Scholarship Program

***Robyn Williamson has been selected to coordinate the Indiana Conference on Legal Opportunity program, the Supreme Court's law school scholarship program, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced recently.***

Ms. Williamson began work in May after nearly four years with the office of Attorney General Steve Carter where she served as a deputy attorney general and coordinator of the Victim Assistance and Address Confidentiality programs.

The Indiana Conference on Legal Opportunity (CLEO) was created in 1997 at the urging of Chief Justice Shepard in an effort to broaden the range of people who enter Indiana's law schools.

Indiana CLEO fellows attend a rigorous six-week Summer Institute designed to expose them to the rigors of law school. They also receive financial assistance and assistance with summer jobs, bar exam preparation, and networking opportunities. To qualify for the program, applicants must be economically or educationally disadvantaged or be members of a minority.

The tenth class of Indiana CLEO fellows is currently attending the Summer Institute at Valparaiso School of Law. Ms. Williamson was an Indiana CLEO fellow in the 1999 class.

"We are very pleased that Ms. Williamson has agreed to join our effort to increase the diversity of the legal profession. Her professional background and her experience as an Indiana CLEO fellow will be invaluable to us as we work to make this program even more successful," said Chief Justice Shepard.

Ms. Williamson graduated from Indiana University School of Law in 2002 and received her undergraduate degree from Earlham College in 1997.

During law school, Ms. Williamson had also worked as law clerk the Indianapolis firm of Lee, Burns, and Cossell and later for the Attorney General's office.

Prior to entering law school she worked at the Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities in Muncie where she was involved with a program for gifted and talented high school students.

For more information about Indiana CLEO, visit: [www.in.gov/judiciary/cleo](http://www.in.gov/judiciary/cleo).

By: David J. Remondini

## Supreme Court Authorizes News Cameras In Trial Courts

***Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard announced that the Supreme Court has authorized a pilot project to test the use of still and video news cameras and tape recorders in Indiana's trial courts.***

The Supreme Court's decision came in response to a request from the Indiana Broadcasters Association and the Hoosier State Press Association. The 18-month pilot project will involve eight trial judges who have agreed to participate in the project.

"I hope that this experiment will help inform the public about the workings of the judicial system and remove any mystery about what happens in a courtroom. The ultimate success of the project will be determined by how much the public benefits from this greater access afforded the working press," said Chief Justice Shepard.

Under the terms of the order, news cameras and news radio station recorders will be allowed only in the courts of the eight trial judges who are part of the project. The trial judge and all parties must also agree to allow cameras or recorders into the courtroom.

The project will allow one video camera, one still camera and up to three tape recorders in a courtroom at each time. The news media must agree to "pool" or share the coverage under an arrangement approved by the trial judge.

The judges who are participating in the project are:

- Judge Nancy E. Boyer, Allen Superior Court, Fort

Wayne

- Judge Robert R. Aylsworth, Warrick Superior Court, Boonville
- Judge Robert Barnett, Jr., Delaware Circuit Court, Muncie
- Judge Robert R. Altice, Marion Superior Court, Indianapolis
- Judge Patricia J. Gifford, Marion Superior Court, Indianapolis
- Judge Thomas K. Milligan, Montgomery Circuit Court, Crawfordsville
- Judge Michael G. Gotsch, St. Joseph Circuit Court, South Bend
- Judge Wayne Trockman, Vanderburgh Superior Court, Evansville.

At the conclusion of the project, the entire effort will be evaluated to determine its future. The project was approved by a 3-2 vote. Chief Justice Shepard, Justice Frank Sullivan, Jr., and Justice Theodore R. Boehm voted in the majority. Justice Brent E. Dickson issued a dissent in which Justice Robert D. Rucker joined.

*By: David J. Remondini*

## Court Staff Training on Pro Se Issues Held in Lafayette

***Eighty-four representatives of court staffs from thirty different counties came to Lafayette, Indiana to receive training on pro se issues.***

Led by Tippecanoe Superior Court Judge Gregory Donat, and his intern Zhumei Meng, from Purdue University, this innovative project was hosted by the Tippecanoe County Pro Se Committee and the Indiana Supreme Court Pro Se Advisory Committee. Others supporting the training were Chief Justice Randall Shepard's office, the Division of State Court Administration, and the Indiana Judicial Center.

The half-day training began with a meet-and-greet session to open the channels of communication among county court offices around the state. Sponsoring organizations then made presentations to participants explaining the services they provide on pro se matters. Of particular interest to many participants was a discussion about the Self-Service Legal Center page on the state judicial website, which provides forms packages for some legal matters that pro se litigants can download, print, and

use. Judge Donat also reviewed some successful pro se programs implemented in Tippecanoe County, including a series of legal information seminars held at the local public library. Participants were shown a video on how to deal with difficult people as a means to assist court staff when handling irate pro se litigants who are confused and angry about system requirements. Additionally, participants received materials on the difference between legal information and legal advice, so they would know the limits on the type of information they can provide to pro se litigants.

The strong positive response from court personnel in attendance and from their superior court judges demonstrated that there is significant interest in future court training opportunities. Judge Donat expressed that he hopes that such court staff trainings can be conducted annually on a regional basis covering pro se and other access to justice topics.

*By: Adrienne Meiring*

## Indiana's Second Group of Certified Court Interpreters Sworn In

*The second group of court interpreters to pass all phases of the Indiana Supreme Court's Interpreter Certification Program took oaths on August 10, 2006, in the Indiana Supreme Court.*

Justice Brent E. Dickson administered the oath to thirteen interpreters: Daniela Guanipa Alfonzo, Irene Bublik, Lina Drew, Ana Maria Grandlienard, Karla Guerra Hoelscher, Carina Julian, Maria Teresa Kilpatrick, Karina Marcelo, Gladys Gonzalez Matthews, Marta McCoy, Ramona Sharp, Molly K. Smith and Montserrat Zuckerman. Eight other interpreters recently obtained certification but were unable to be present at the ceremony: Adriana Fonseca, Lorie Renee Gutierrez, Laura Garcia Hein, Marina Kiser, Jose Montalvo, Dawn Ramey, Melania Scheibel, and Elsadig Hag-Elagib.

At the ceremony, Justice Dickson emphasized the significance of the accomplishment of these candidates. Citing

Launched in 2003, Indiana's certification program was created in response to a recommendation by the Indiana Supreme Court's Commission on Race and Gender Fairness. In studies of Indiana courts, the commission found courts relying upon litigants to recruit their own interpreters. The commission heard numerous reports of litigants' relatives or other individuals untrained in the law being used as interpreters. A clear picture developed that Indiana citizens, legal professionals and judges were frustrated with the lack of a neutral court interpreter system in the state.

Besides providing courts with neutral interpreters, Indiana's certification process is designed to give Indiana



*From left to right, front row: Lina Drew, Karina Marcelo, Justice Brent E. Dickson, Ramona Sharp, Montserrat Zuckerman, Molly K. Smith. Back Row: Irene Bublik, Ana Maria Grandlienard, Gladys Gonzalez Matthews, Daniela Guanipa Alfonzo, Marta McCoy, Maria Teresa Kilpatrick, Karla Hoelscher, Carina Julian*

the various stages that the candidates had to pass as part of this challenging program, Justice Dickson remarked, "we can say with great confidence that the candidates who come before us today truly represent some of the most qualified interpreters in the state of Indiana." Justice Myra C. Selby, Chair of the Indiana Supreme Court's Commission on Race and Gender Fairness, echoed Justice Dickson's praise of the candidates and stressed the Commission's commitment to the expansion of the interpreter certification program. She pointed out that not only does the Commission seek to increase the number of certified Spanish interpreters in Indiana, but the Commission also will begin examining the possibility of testing in other languages.

courtrooms access to high quality Spanish-speaking interpreters. Indiana's rigorous program, based upon national standards, is a four-part process, which includes both a written and oral exam. Indiana's current passage rate exceeds the national average, at a little over 20 percent.

For a complete listing of all certified interpreters in Indiana, as well as their contact information, go to [www.in.gov/judiciary/interpreter/registry.html](http://www.in.gov/judiciary/interpreter/registry.html). For more information about the Indiana Supreme Court's Interpreter Certification Program, including information about dates for upcoming sessions, visit the Program's webpage at [www.in.gov/judiciary/interpreter/](http://www.in.gov/judiciary/interpreter/) or call the Division of State Court Administration at 317-232-2542.

*By: Adrienne Meiring*



## History is Circular: One Judge's Perspective



*As the deadline for sub-mission of this column approached, I was still waiting for a topic to pop into my brain. Then, while sitting in a CLE session at the Midyear Meeting, the speaker mentioned the Korematsu<sup>1</sup> case. The inspiration for a column topic was immediate.*

People commonly ask me how I came to reside in southern Indiana. There is usually an assumption that I migrated to Indiana from a more traditional American-Asian locale. Not so. I serve in the community in which I was born and raised - Dearborn County, Indiana. It is my mother's migration to Indiana that is the story that needs to be told.

My mother, Joyce Yukiko Kanzawa, was born in San Francisco the youngest of six children. Her three brothers and two sisters also are U.S. citizens by birth. Each of them is full-blooded Japanese and claims dual citizenship. Each has an English first name and a Japanese middle name.

My great-grandfather, Tsunetaro Kanzawa, founded the Tenrikyo Church of the United States in the early 20th Century. My grandfather, Yoshiyuki Kanzawa, followed his father into religious missionary work. During the 1930's the missionary work resulted in the family being split between Japan and San Francisco. The three oldest children went to Japan with their parents. My mother and her other two siblings remained in California with their grandparents. Sensing the winds of war, the three youngest children were sent to Japan in May 1941 to avoid growing persecution at home.

My mother's grandparents remained in the U.S. after war broke out. They were removed from their home and placed in separate internment camps. My great-grandmother died while detained in Utah. My great-grandfather died while detained in New Mexico.

During World War II the Kanzawa kids were people without a country. They could not live freely in this country with full rights of citizenship. They could not live in Japan without suspicion of being "those American kids". My mother and her siblings survived in Japan, but it was a challenge. They were tormented in school. They were bullied. They had rocks thrown at them. My mother does not talk much about her youth. But there is one memory she has repeated many times to my siblings and I. She experienced hunger. She wanted to make sure that her children never suffered like she did.

My mother and her siblings remained in Japan after the war because they could not afford passage back home to California. Being bi-lingual and a U.S. citizen, my mother secured a civil service job in General MacArthur's occupational government for the re-construction of Japan. During the Korean War, my father was stationed in Japan for the U.S.

Air Force. He met my mother and they became engaged. My mother now had her ticket back home.

After his stint in the service, my father returned to his hometown of Lawrenceburg, Indiana, with his new wife. My mother's sisters followed a similar route of travel back to the U.S. with American servicemen. One brother stayed in Japan, another brother died in his youth, and the other joined the U.S. Army. It is ironic that the government that deprived my mother and her siblings of their inherent rights of citizenship became the vehicle for their return to the States.

It wasn't until law school and the reading of the Korematsu case that I started to comprehend my mother's experience and suffering. Her childhood was interrupted. Her adolescence was robbed. As I previously mentioned, my mother doesn't talk about her youth. She was deprived of the ability to share with her children and her grandchildren stories that normally begin "When I was a kid..."

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Korematsu case that I started  
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---

History is circular. The Korematsu's of today are of Hispanic or Middle Eastern or North African descent. Judges should learn from this history, of only 65 years ago, that we must scrutinize the encroachment upon the rights of people who might only be guilty of looking like the enemy.

My mother seems to have accepted her role in this drama. The consequences were unfair, but she endured. She has never been critical of her interruption of citizenship. She did not inquire about reparations. As a son, it is easy to thank my mother for the things that are obvious - food, clothing, shelter, and an educational opportunity. But, today I thank my mother for her endurance, her perseverance, her strong will, and her ability to turn the other cheek and move on. I believe she has instilled in all of her children the virtues of self-discipline, work ethic, and an ability to look adversity straight in the eye and survive. Each of us as judges knows that the ability to face adversity is a requirement of our job. *"Thank you, Mom, for preparing me for this job".*

By: Judge G. Michael Witte

<sup>1</sup> *Korematsu v. United States*, 323 U.S. 214, 65 S.Ct. 193, 89 L.Ed. 194 (1944)

## Ron Miller Moves to Marion County Superior Court Administrator Position

*After seven years with the Division of State Court Administration, Ron Miller has left to become the Court Administrator for the Marion Superior Court. Ron assumed his new duties on May 8. During his time with the Division, Ron had worked extensively with the annual report, weighted caseload, JTAC, and the development and implementation of Administrative Rule 9.*

"It was a very difficult decision to leave, but the opportunity to be involved in the administration of trial courts at the local level was too exciting to pass up," Ron said. The Marion Superior Court has some seventy-five judicial officers and handles approximately twenty percent of the state's total caseload each year. Ron has joined the Superior Court at a good time - changes are presently underway to the operations at the Juvenile Detention Center, the Superior Court is adding new judges to their ranks on January 1, 2006, and technological innovation in the court is moving at a rapid pace. "It is very exciting to

be a part of so many projects and initiatives, and see the potential for improvements to the system to better serve the people who interact with our courts."

Ron is a graduate of DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana, and worked as a statistical analyst for the Division while attending the Indiana University School of Law - Indianapolis. Following his graduation from law school, Ron was in private practice with Henderson Daily Withrow & DeVoe before returning to the Division as Director of Trial Court Management.

## Colleen O'Brien Promoted to Director of Trial Court Management

*Lilia Judson, Executive Director of the Division of State Court Administration, announced recently that Colleen O'Brien has been promoted to fill the vacancy left by Ron Miller's departure to become the Marion County Court Administrator.*

Colleen holds a bachelor of arts in political science and French from the University of Illinois and a J.D. from Indiana University School of Law. Upon graduation from law school, she clerked for Justice Brent Dickson of the Indiana Supreme Court before going on to practice insurance defense litigation for eight years with the Carmel law firm of Jennings Taylor Wheeler & Haley.

Looking for a new challenge, Colleen became the Communications Director and began serving as defense counsel for the Hoosier Lottery. As Communications Director, she was responsible for the Lottery's three

publications, the Web site, and communications on behalf of the Director. Two years later, she added to her responsibilities at the Lottery by also becoming the Director of Administration. As Director of Administration, she was responsible for the operations of the Lottery's fleet, facilities, mail center, procurement and human resources divisions. She also continued to defend the Lottery in litigation up through the appellate level.

Colleen joined the Division of State Court Administration in May 2005.

## Kristin Donnelly-Miller Joins STAD as New Staff Attorney

*The Division of State Court Administration welcomes a new staff attorney, Kristin Donnelly Miller, who started work on Monday, August 28.*

She will be filling the position vacated by Colleen O'Brien who was promoted to Ron Miller's former position.

Kristin comes to us from Marion Superior Court where she served as a Special Master/Court Administrator for Judge Ken Johnson since 1998. While there she wore many hats, including managing the asbestos litigation

caseload (2400+ cases) and taking the lead role in implementing a filing/service technology in Judge Johnson's court. Prior to joining Judge Johnson's court, she was a law clerk and then Of Counsel for a Fort Wayne law firm. She earned her B.A. in political science from Washington & Jefferson College and her J.D. from DePaul University College of Law (1997).

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Our goal is to foster communications, respond to concerns, and contribute to the spirit and pride that encompasses the work of all members of the judiciary around the state. We welcome your comments, suggestions and news. If you have an article, advertisement, announcement, or particular issue you would like to see in our publication, please contact us.

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### **Please Circulate to Co-workers**

**This newsletter reports on important administrative matters. Please keep for future reference.**

## *Indiana Court Times*

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